

REMARKS

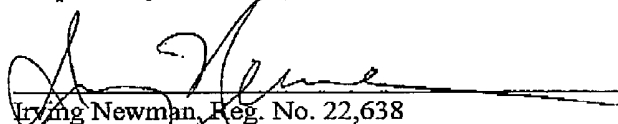
The claims have been amended so as to limit the process to a preferred embodiment and thereby expedite prosecution of this application by more clearly distinguishing the claimed invention from the prior art, as discussed with the Examiner in a recent telephone interview. No 'new matter' has been added.

Accordingly, the rejection of claims 1-4 as unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the only rejection set forth in the final Action, has been obviated by the foregoing amendment.

CONCLUSIONS

In view of the above Remarks, it is respectfully submitted that claims 3 to 5 are now in condition for allowance, and early issuance of this case is respectfully requested. In the event that the Examiner wishes to contact the undersigned regarding any matter, please call (collect if necessary) the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,


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